

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for providing a replaceable light source comprising the steps of:

- a) manufacturing a light source on a flexible substrate in a substantially two-dimensional configuration;
- b) shipping the light source in the two-dimensional configuration;
- and
- c) flexing and removably placing the light source in a curved three dimensional configuration within a lighting fixture.

2. The method claimed in claim 1 further including the step of packing the light source in a flat package.

3. The method claimed in claim 2 wherein the package contains a plurality of light sources.

4. The method claimed in claim 3 wherein a portion of the plurality of light sources may be removed from the package.

5. The method claimed in claim 2 wherein the light source may be removed from the package and mounted in the lighting fixture by holding and manipulating the light source by the edges of the light source.

6. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of vending the light source in a flat package from a vending machine.

7. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of vending the light source in a flat package through the mail.

8. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of vending the light source in a flat package with the lighting fixture.

9. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of vending a plurality of light sources in a flat configuration within a dispenser adapted to dispense one light source at a time.

10. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of placing advertising on a non-emissive portion of the light source.

11. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a light source at no cost to a customer to induce sales of a lighting fixture.

12. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a lighting fixture at no cost to a customer to induce sales of a light sources.

13. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of providing means for testing a light source while the light source is in a package.

14. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving a deposit from a customer for a light source and returning the deposit to the customer upon a return of the light source.

15. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving a deposit from a customer for a light source and returning the deposit to the customer upon the purchase of a second light source.

16. The method claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of vending a plurality of light sources each in a flat package depending from a common support.

17. A method for providing a replaceable light source comprising the steps of:

- a) manufacturing a plurality of light sources on one or more flexible substrates in substantially two-dimensional configurations;
- b) forming a sequentially attached plurality of the light sources into a cylindrical roll;
- c) shipping the roll of light sources;
- d) detaching one or more of the light sources from the roll; and
- e) flexing and removably placing the detached light source in a curved three dimensional configuration within a lighting fixture.

18. The method claimed in claim 17 further comprising the step of providing a plurality of light sources packaged in a roll and electrically connected in parallel and means to detach and provide power to groups of individual light sources electrically connected in parallel.

19. The method claimed in claim 17 further comprising the step of providing a plurality of light sources packaged in a roll and electrically connected in series and means to detach and provide power to groups of individual light sources electrically connected in series.

20. The method claimed in claim 17, wherein the sequential attachment is provided by a common flexible substrate.

21. The method claimed in claim 17, wherein the sequential attachment is provided by a common backing layer to which the light sources are attached.

22. The method claimed in claim 17 further comprising the step of vending the light sources from a vending machine.

23. The method claimed in claim 17 further comprising the step of vending the light sources through the mail.

24. The method claimed in claim 17 further comprising the step of vending the light sources with the lighting fixture.

25. The method claimed in claim 17 further comprising the step of vending a plurality of light sources from a dispenser adapted to dispense one light source at a time.

26. A method for providing a replaceable light source comprising the steps of:

- a) manufacturing a plurality of light sources on one or more flexible substrates in substantially two-dimensional configurations;
- b) forming a sequentially attached plurality of the light sources into an accordion-folded stack;

- c) shipping the light sources in the stack;
- d) detaching one or more of the light sources from the stack; and
- e) flexing and removably placing the detached light source in a curved three dimensional configuration within a lighting fixture.

27. The method claimed in claim 26 further comprising the step of providing a plurality of light sources packaged in a stack and electrically connected in parallel and means to detach and provide power to groups of individual light sources electrically connected in parallel.

28. The method claimed in claim 26 further comprising the step of providing a plurality of light sources packaged in a stack and electrically connected in series and means to detach and provide power to groups of individual light sources electrically connected in series.

29. The method claimed in claim 26, wherein the sequential attachment is provided by a common flexible substrate.

30. The method claimed in claim 26, wherein the sequential attachment is provided by a common backing layer to which the light sources are attached.

31. The method claimed in claim 31 further comprising the step of vending the light sources from a vending machine.

32. The method claimed in claim 26 further comprising the step of vending the light sources through the mail.

33. The method claimed in claim 26 further comprising the step of vending the light sources with the lighting fixture.

34. The method claimed in claim 26 further comprising the step of vending a plurality of light sources from a dispenser adapted to dispense one light source at a time.